

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following Remarks. Claims 11-20 were pending. Claims 11-20 are currently pending.

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. 121

The Examiner indicated that restriction of Claims 11 - 20 to one of the following inventions is required under 35 USC 121 and 372:

Group I: Claims 11-12 (part), 14 (part), 15-17 (part), 18 (part), and 19-20 (part) drawn to purines.

Group II: Claims 11-12 (part), 14 (part), 15-17 (part), 18 (part), and 19-20 (part) drawn to imidazopyridines.

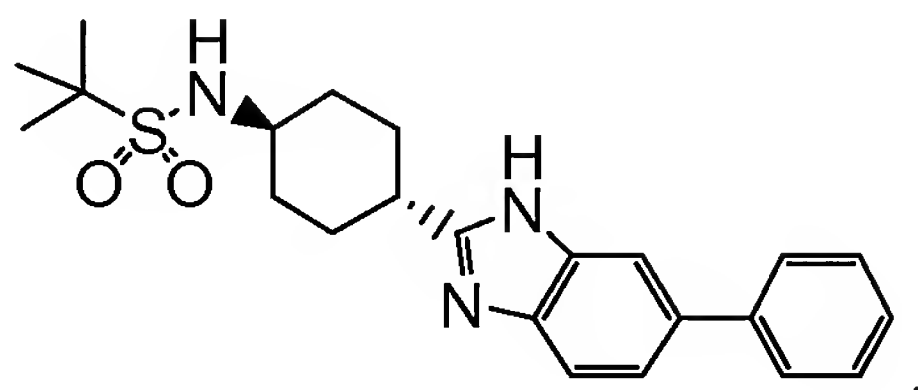
Group III: Claims 11-12 (part), 13, 15-17 (part), 18 (part), and 19-20 (part), drawn to benzimidazoles.

Group IV: Claims 11-12 (part), 15-17 (part), and 19-20 (part), drawn to other.

Applicants are required to i) elect an invention to be examined, even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and ii) to identify claims encompassing the elected invention.

Applicants hereby elect Group III, Claims 11-12(part), 13, 15-17(part), 18(part), and 19-20(part), drawn to benzimidazoles.

Applicants are required under 35 USC 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims will be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Applicants hereby elect the compound of Example 3, which is 2-(trans-4-*tert*-butylsulfonylamino- cyclohexyl)-5-phenylbenzimidazole, on page 55 of the specification as the elected species:



The following claims read on the elected species: 11 - 13 and 15 - 20.

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Respectfully submitted,

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